



Home > News > State > Latest State headlines from AP
Posted Wednesday, Sep. 16, 2009

Comments (0)

Recommend (0)

Print Share

Buzz up!

Reprints

LATEST STATE HEADLINES FROM AP

RSS

Mobile

Newsletters

Man condemned for drug dealer's slaying set to die

ARTICLE

COMMENTS

BY MICHAEL GRACZYK
Associated Press Writer

HUNTSVILLE, Texas — Convicted killer Stephen Moody was headed to the Texas death chamber Wednesday evening for a lethal injection for the shooting death of a Houston man during a robbery 18 years ago.

Moody, 52, asked that no last-minute appeals be filed to try to block his execution, the 17th this year in the nation's busiest death penalty state.

"I'll cuss no one in there," Moody told The Associated Press in a recent interview. "I have respect. Maybe they'll see I was a human being.

"I don't want to leave spewing a lot of hate. What good is that going to do?"

The U.S. Supreme Court refused to review Moody's case last year after a federal appeals court rejected questions raised about jury selection procedures at his 1993 trial.

"I'm satisfied," he said. "I'm ready, man. I ain't quitting. I went all the way. ... That's how I look at it."

"We have to kind of sit on our hands," Moody's lawyer, Philip Hilder, said. "We wouldn't be normally doing that, but it is his wishes."

Moody accepted responsibility for killing Joseph Hall, 28, with a blast from a sawed-off shotgun at Hall's Houston home in October 1991.

A

Texas Department of Criminal Justice execution schedule

Have more to add?
News tip? [Tell us](#)



M
F
T
G
-b
C
S
C
E
ce

Hall was described at Moody's trial as a drug dealer known to carry a lot of cash. Moody and an accomplice had confronted Hall, who put up a struggle when he was ordered to surrender his money.

"He started fighting," Moody said. "He wouldn't listen to me. He wouldn't lay down."

Moody said he took about \$2,000 from Hall's pocket and fled.

Hall's girlfriend, who saw him talking with two men, crawled through a bathroom window to run next door and call 911, heard a shot and returned to find Hall dead on the living room floor. At his trial, she identified Moody as the man with the sawed-off shotgun.

The slaying had gone unsolved for nearly a year until a relative of the man accused of being Moody's accomplice gave police a tip that led to their arrests. By then, Moody was in prison starting to serve a 40-year sentence for bank robbery.

The accomplice in the shooting, Calvin Doby, received a life sentence. Moody got the death penalty.

"You do what you do," Moody said. "You pay for what you do. ... I had plenty of chances in my life."

Besides the bank robbery conviction, the former oilfield worker from Houston served prison time for auto theft and two terms for burglary.

Harris County authorities were looking at Doby's case again after Moody recently said another man, not Doby, was his partner at the Hall shooting. Moody signed a sworn affidavit earlier this month saying Doby was innocent. Moody was questioned by prosecutors a few days ago.

Moody was the first of four Texas prisoners set to die over the next two weeks and among at least 10 scheduled for execution in the next several months.

Christopher Coleman, 37, is scheduled for lethal injection Tuesday for a December 1995 shooting spree that left three people dead in Houston. Two days later, Kenneth Mosley, 51, is set to die for fatally shooting a police officer, Michael Moore, during a bank robbery in the Dallas suburb of Garland in 1997.

[Refinance Now at 4.25% Fixed](#)

\$160,000 Mortgage for \$633/mo. Free. No obligation. Get 4 quotes.
MortgageRefinance

[Obama Backs Insurance Regulation](#)

Think You Pay Too Much for Auto Insurance? Find out Now.
Auto-Insurance

[Obama Urges Homeowners to Refinance](#)

\$90,000 Refinance \$499/mo. See Rates- No Credit Check Req. SeeRefinanceRates

Ads by Yahoo!

[COPYRIGHT](#) [CONTACT US](#) [REPORT A PROBLEM](#) [ADVERTISE WITH US](#) [TERMS OF USE AND PRIVACY STATEMENT](#)

Star-Telegram